

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAMASC 00988 120351Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 OMB-01  
/078 W

-----120356Z 018323 /75

R 111550Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1739  
INFO AMEMASSY AMMAN  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION USUN  
USIA WASHDC  
DIA WASHDC  
USCINCEUR

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 0988

C O R R E C R E T C O P Y -(E.O. - TAGS - SUBJ LINES)

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR PINT SY  
SUBJ: SYRIA MEDIA SUMMARY FOR FEB 11

1. SYRIAN MEDIA GENERALLY LED WITH REPORTS OF DISTURBANCES IN  
IRAQ. THAWRA HEADLINED: "OVERWHELMING POPULAR REVOLUTION  
BREAKS OUT IN IRAQ. IRAQI REGIME ADMITS TO BLOODY CLASHES  
TAKING PLACE BETWEEN THE ANGRY MASSES AND ITS FORCES IN MOSUL  
AND KARBALA." ACCOMPANYING REPORTS CLAIMED BAGHDAD RADIO  
REPEATED ALL DAY FEB 10 COMMUNIQUE OF IRAQI GOVT WHICH REFERRED  
TO "LARGE-SCALE POLITICAL EVENTS OCCURRING ALL OVER IRAQ."  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 DAMASC 00988 120351Z

COMMUNIQUE ALLEGEDLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT RIOTS HAD OCCURRED  
ON FEB 5-6 AND SYRIAN MEDIA CHARACTERIZED IRAQI REGIME'S  
EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH DISTURBANCES AS "VIOLENT AND SAVAGE."  
REPORTS RECALLED EXPANSION OF IRAQI CABINET LAST MONTH TO  
UNPRECEDENTED 43 MINISTERS AFTER ALLEGED SERIES OF MEETINGS  
HELD IN IRAQI MILITARY CAMP OF ABU GHARIB AND CLAIMED THAT  
RECENT DISTURBANCES REFLECTED STRUGGLE FOR POWER AMONG

VARIOUS PARTY FACTIONS. SYRIAN MEDIA CLAIMED IRAQ CLOSED ITS BORDER WITH SYRIA FEB 9, AND SYRIAN RADIO REPORTED 1415L THAT KUWAIT HAD CLOSED ITS BORDER WITH IRAQ.

2. PROMINENCE ALSO GIVEN TO ATTENDANCE AT FUNERAL OF QUEEN ALIA OF PRES ASAD AND MUCH OF SARG'S TOP LEADERSHIP.

3. PRES SARKIS REPORTEDLY WILL TOUR SEVERAL ARAB CAPITALS AFTER VISIT OF SECRETARY VANCE. SYRIAN PRESS QUOTED INFORMED SOURCE IN BEIRUT AS SAYING SARKIS WOULD VISIT RIYADH, KUWAIT, AND CAIRO. REASONS FOR TOUR WERE GIVEN AS DESIRE TO COORDINATE POSITIONS ARAB STATES OVER ME CRISIS BEFORE THE ARAB SUMMIT AND THE ARAB-AFRICAN SUMMIT SCHEDULED FOR NEXT MARCH.

4. TOUR OF UNSYG WALDHEIM ALSO CONTINUED TO RECEIVE ATTENTION IN MEDIA. STATEMENTS WALDHEIM GAVE TO JORDANIAN DAILY AL-RA'I CARRIED RE HIS HOPE THAT SATISFACTORY SOLUTION COULD BE FOUND TO ISSUE OF ATTENDANCE OF PALESTINIANS AT GENEVA SINCE PALESTINIAN DIMENSION EXTREMELY IMPORTANT IN ANY ME SETTLEMENT. MEDIA ALSO REPORTED THAT WAVE OF STRIKES OCCURRED ON WEST BANK TO GREET ARRIVAL OF WALDHEIM TO JERUSALEM. IN SAME ARTICLES IT WAS REPORTED THAT US SENATORS WHO RECENTLY TOURED AREA HAD URGED THAT NEW ADMINISTRATION MOVE QUICKLY TO REALIZE ME SETTLEMENT.

5. EDITORIALS GENERALLY DEALT WITH ISRAEL'S ATTITUDES TOWARD UN ROLE IN PROMOTING PEACE SETTLEMENT WHICH PRESS CHARACTERIZED AS DEFYING WORLD COMMUNITY. THAWRA EDITORIAL CALLED FOR UN TO INSTITUTE SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL OR EXPEL IT FROM "THE INTER-UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 DAMASC 00988 120351Z

NATIONAL FAMILY."  
MURPHY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS SUMMARIES, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, CIVIL DISORDERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977DAMASC00988  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770073-0932, D770050-0538  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** DAMASCUS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770251/aaaabsvg.tel  
**Line Count:** 99  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 70f9f5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3346145  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SYRIA MEDIA SUMMARY FOR FEB 11  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, SOPN, PINS, SY, IZ  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/70f9f5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009